

1987

S-153  
Centennial M.E. Church  
Upper Fairmount  
Public Worship

c. 1884

The Centennial Methodist Episcopal Church, built in 1884 and remodeled in 1910, is an anomaly for rural black congregations in Somerset County. It's expansive two-story, three-bay by four-bay size is not repeated by another rural black church. The molded pediments, which top each of the first and some of the second floor openings, are a simple but effective decorative treatment. A three story bell tower dominates the northwest corner and is distinguished by circular and diamond shaped openings.

# Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Survey No. S-153

Magi No. 2001535608

DOE \_\_\_yes \_\_\_no

## 1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Centennial M. E. Church

and/or common

## 2. Location

street & number Halls Creek Road \_\_\_ not for publication

city, town Upper Fairmount \_\_\_ vicinity of congressional district First

state Maryland county Somerset

## 3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
___ district	___ public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	___ agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	___ unoccupied	___ commercial
___ structure	___ both	___ work in progress	___ educational
___ site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	___ entertainment
___ object	___ in process	___ yes: restricted	___ government
	___ being considered	___ yes: unrestricted	___ industrial
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	___ no	___ military
			___ other:

## 4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Trustees of Centennial M. E. Church

street & number telephone no.:

city, town Upper Fairmount state and zip code Md.

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Somerset Clerk of Court liber

street & number Somerset County Courthouse folio

city, town Princess Anne, state Md. 21853

## 6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date \_\_\_ federal \_\_\_ state \_\_\_ county \_\_\_ local

pository for survey records

city, town state

## 7. Description

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<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved      date of move _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The Centennial Methodist Episcopal Church, built in 1884 and remodeled in 1910, is a large two-story rectangular frame church in Upper Fairmount, Maryland. Halls Creek Road passes directly west of the structure. A steeply pitched roof is covered with asphalt shingles and trimmed with eave brackets. The massive frame is sheathed with weatherboards and supported by brick piers. A three-story bell tower rises on the northwest corner.

The <sup>north</sup> facade of the main block is three bays across with a center double-door entrance and flanking 2/2 sash windows. Each opening on the first floor, as well as on the second, is topped by a molded pediment. A round opening in the attic has been boarded up. The bell tower has a double leaf door with molded pediment on the first floor, a round opening on the second floor and a diamond opening on the third floor. A small balustrade fills the lower corner of each diamond.

The east side is four bays across with pedimented 2/2 sash windows. There is one door opening on the first floor and four 4/4 tall, narrow sash windows on the second.

The south wall is distinguished by a shallow two-story apse with narrow shingle pane windows on each side.

The west side of the church is similar to the east side.

A small brick stove flue pierces the center of the roof. The interior was not seen but evidently the first floor contained Sunday school rooms or a smaller sanctuary, while the main sanctuary is located on the second floor.

## 8. Significance

Survey No. S-153

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1884, 1910

Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D  
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☐ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

The Centennial M. E. Church, built in 1884, is an anomaly ~~for~~ rural black congregations in Somerset County. It's expansive two-story, three-bay by four-bay size is not repeated by another rural black church. The molded pediments which top each of the first and some of the second floor openings ~~are~~ a simple but effective decorative treatment.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. S-153

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property \_\_\_\_\_

Quadrangle name \_\_\_\_\_

Quadrangle scale \_\_\_\_\_

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A 

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Zone Easting Northing

B 

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Zone Easting Northing

C 

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D 

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E 

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F 

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G 

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H 

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Verbal boundary description and justification \_\_\_\_\_

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Paul B. Touart-Architectural Historian

organization Somerset County Historical Trust

date 2/2/84

street &amp; number 424 N. Somerset Avenue

telephone (Home) 651-1094

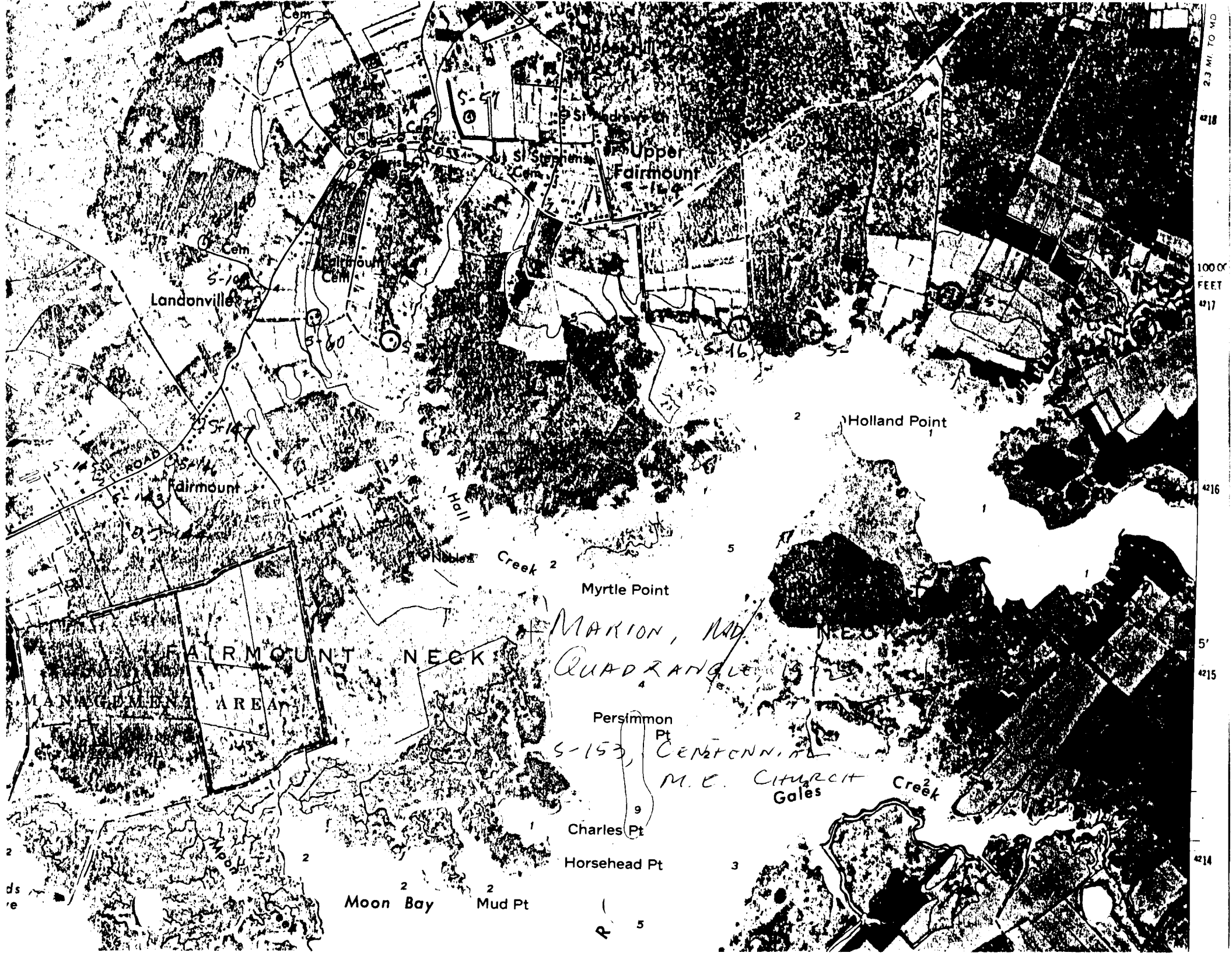
city or town Princess Anne,

state Md. 21853

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust  
Shaw House  
21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 269-2438



2.3 MI. TO MD  
4218  
1000 FEET  
4217  
4216  
5'  
4215  
4214



Centennial M. E. Church  
Upper Fairmount, Somerset County  
North Elevation  
11/83 Paul Touart  
Neg./Md. Historical Trust

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Centennial M. E. Church  
Upper Fairmount, Somerset County  
North Elevation  
11/83 Paul Touart  
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Centennial M. E. Church                      S-153  
Upper Fairmount, Somerset County  
Southeast <sup>West</sup> Elevation  
11/83 Paul Touart  
Neg./Md. Historical Trust



Centennial M. E. Church

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Upper Fairmount, Somerset County

Door and Window Details

11/83 Paul Touart

Neg./Md. Historical Trust



Centennial M. E. Church  
Upper Fairmount, Somerset County  
Southeast Elevation  
11/83 Paul Touart  
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